BULLETIN

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Remote Controlled Minesweeper

Background. KARLSKRONAVARVET AB, a Swedish firm, has developed a remotely controlled minesweeper device (called SAM) for the sweeping of both magnetic and acoustic mines. The device is built on a catamaran-type hull with a diesel-driven rudder-propeller and is fully equipped with power supply, sweeping equipment, navigational, and control systems. The system (see Figure 1) is designed to be operated in an unmanned mode from a nearby lead ship.

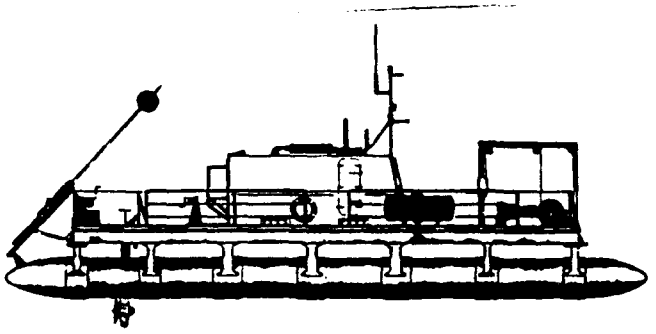

Figure 1. The SAM remote controlled minesweeper.

Operations. The SAM performs the following operational functions:

- Magnetic minesweeping by coils integrated in the hull
- Acoustic minesweeping by a towed acoustic transmitter
- Clearing the way to get higher security for minesweepers and mine hunters
- Monitoring

Proplusion machinery. The propulsion machinery consists of a Volvo Penta TAMD 70 diesel engine with a continuous output of about 159 kW at 2200 rpm connected to a Schottel-type propeller unit via reversing gear, couplings, and shaft. The diesel engine and the reversing gear are mounted onto the main platform. The machinery is normally remotely controlled from another vessel but can also be controlled at the engine or from the operating platform on board.

Remote Control System. The SAM is fitted with a remote control system, developed by KARLSKRONAVARVET. It fulfills the following major functions:

- Diesel engine control
- Steering control
- Minesweeping equipment control
- Monitoring

Technical Specifications

Length	18.0 meters
Beam	6.2 meters
Draft	1.6 meters
Displacement	19.7 m^3
Speed	8 knots
Range	330 nm at 7 knots
Engine	150 kW at 2200 rpm

Platform and superstructure in aluminum. Schottel type propeller

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